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**COMICS**

FROM THE EXPLOSIVE ANIMATED TV SERIES!

# GARGOYLES



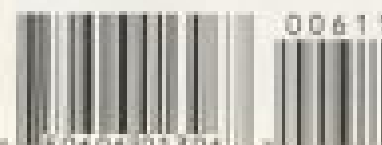
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APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

**GOLIATH  
VERSUS  
DEMONA!**

CONNER  
PATRIOT

DIRECT EDITION



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**IF LOOKS COULD KILL!**



FROM THE PERSONAL DIARY  
OF DETECTIVE SECOND CLASS,  
ELISA MAZA, N.Y.P.D.:

My new "SISTER" was  
BORN today...

...The product of another forbidden  
foray into genetic manipulation by  
Xanatos and his twisted physicists.  
Demona managed to get blood  
samples from me and Goliath, and  
from them the demented Dr. Phobos  
created a HUMANGARGOYLE HYBRID.

Phobos had crafted  
many weird creations  
for Xanatos and it  
was because of his  
latest project, the  
MEDUSA DEVICE, that  
the GARGOYLES and I  
had invaded their  
man-made island  
laboratory.

Because the paranoid  
Phobos thought Xanatos  
had it in for him, he found  
security in his latest  
genetic concoction, VENUS.  
Her prime directive: to  
protect her creator at all  
costs!

YES, MY  
DEAR, YOU WILL  
SAFEGUARD ME FROM  
XANATOS IF NEED BE...  
AND KILL THE  
GARGOYLES!

We had our hands  
full at the time and  
didn't know of...

GARGOYLES

# VENUS RISING

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The GARGOYLES and I were very busy in another part of the laboratory complex with XANATOS and his newest toy... the MEDUSA DEVICE!

BEWARE, GARGOYLES! LIKE THE MEDUSA OF LEGEND, ONE LOOK FROM ME CAN TURN YOU TO STONE... PERMANENTLY!

FWASSSSH

KRAK!

ZZZZZZZZZZ

HE SPEAKS THE TRUTH! THOSE PLANTS HAVE BECOME PETRIFIED!

DOOF! THAT WAS TOO CLOSE!

FOOF

FOOF

LETTERS:  
JOHN COSTANZA

COLORS:  
FREDDY MENDEZ

EDITOR:  
HILDY MESNIK

FINISHES:  
ALBERTO SAICHANY

STAY OUT OF HIS LINE OF FIRE, GUYS! WE CAN'T AFFORD GETTING STONED NOW!

PLOT:  
MARTIN PASKO & MORT TODD

SCRIPT: MORT TODD  
BREAKDOWNS: AMANDA CONNER

ENOUGH DEMONSTRATION! NOW YOU WILL HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING THE NEXT LIVING CREATURES TO FEEL THE EFFECTS OF MY DEVICE!

FZZZZZ

UHP! IT'S TOO EARLY TO GO TO SLEEP!



BROOKLYN!  
GET BACK!

OOOF!

GIVE UP,  
XANATOS! YOU'VE  
NEVER GOT THE BEST  
OF US, YET!

YOU GIVE  
ME NO CHOICE,  
GOLIATH!

WHAT I WAS  
GOING TO USE TO  
CONTROL YOU, I  
MUST NOW USE  
TO DESTROY  
YOU!

FWASSH

KRAACK

It looked like he had  
GOLIATH dead in his  
sights, when...

FIRE

AAAAARRRRRRR

I-IS  
THAT  
DEMONA?!

CHAKK

WHAT  
IN--

NO...  
IT'S SOMETHING  
ELSE!



BY THE  
ROOKERY!  
SHE-- SHE IS A  
GARGOYLE!

WHO ARE  
YOU?!

MY NAME  
IS VENUS.

ARE  
YOU... MY  
MATE?!

ACCK!  
MORE LIKE YOUR  
BROTHER!

LET'S  
SEE HOW  
WELL YOU FARE  
WITHOUT YOUR  
EYE WEAPON!

AHHH! HOW  
FORTUITOUS!

SHE--  
SHE LOOKS  
LIKE... ME.

WHAT  
SORCERY IS  
THIS?

NOT  
SORCERY...  
SCIENCE!

SHE'S  
A CREATION OF  
PHOBOS... A HYBRID  
BREWED OF BLOOD  
SAMPLES FROM BOTH  
YOU AND GOLIATH,  
DETECTIVE!

BUT  
WHY IS SHE  
ATTACKING  
ME?!

YOU  
WEAR THE  
FALSE MANTLE  
OF MY KIND AND  
THREATEN THOSE  
LIKE ME! THAT  
MAKES YOU AN  
ENEMY!

SKRAKK

K-TUNK!





I WON'T NEED WEAPONS TO DISPATCH THE LIKES OF YOU!

THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!



WE CAN'T FLY FOR LACK OF AIR CURRENTS...

...BUT WE MUST HELP THE POOR CREATURE! GRAB HOLD, ELISA. WE'LL SCALE THE WALL!

GOLIATH SEEMS INTRIGUED BY HER...



WE'VE GOT TO BE CAREFUL. WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS VENUS.

SHE WAS PROBABLY PROGRAMMED TO ATTACK YOU!

IF WE ARE TO BELIEVE XANATOS, SHE IS PART ME AND PART YOU!

SHE DESERVES THE BENEFIT OF OUR DOUBT!

CHUNK



HER BATTLE TECHNIQUE IS COMMENDABLE. SHE ISN'T GIVING XANATOS A CHANCE TO USE HIS ARMAMENTS!



YOU ONLY EXIST BECAUSE OF ME, ENFANT TERRIBLE! YOU WILL SERVE ME... OR BE DESTROYED!

EXCELLENT! VENUS AND MY SPY-CAM ARE WORKING PERFECTLY!

CONSIDERING SHE'S NEWLY BORN, SHE IS FUNCTIONING EXQUISITELY!



IF XANATOS THOUGHT TO GET RID OF ME, HE'LL NOT HAVE THAT CHANCE NOW!



AND ONBOARD A BOAT OFF THE ISLAND, HUDSON AND BRONX WATCH THE SKYBORNE BATTLE...

RYE, BRONX,  
THERE IS  
SOMETHING  
BREWING IN THE  
SKIES!

IT APPEARS A  
STEEL CLAN WARRIOR  
IS BATTLING A  
GARGOYLE... BUT  
WHICH ONE?

YOU'RE  
QUICK, I'LL  
GRANT YOU  
THAT...

...BUT YOU  
CAN'T EVADE  
MY BLASTS  
FOREVER!

EVEN  
YOUR  
MECHANICAL  
MEANS OF  
FLIGHT  
MOCKS  
ME!

...I STILL  
HAVE BRUTE  
FORCE!

ARRIGH!  
YOU MUST'VE  
INHERITED YOUR  
TENACITY FROM  
DETECTIVE  
WAZAR!

WELL, IF  
TECHNOLOGY  
FAILS ME...

THAT  
SENT HER  
FALLING  
LIKE...

...WELL, A  
STONE!

"OH, NO! NO...!"



...I HOPE HE  
HASN'T DAMAGED  
VENUS! I STILL HAVE  
NEED OF HER!

SHE PERFORMED  
ADMIRABLY— A  
TOTAL FIGHTING  
MACHINE!

I'M SURE  
XANATOS WILL NOT  
BE AMUSED BY THE  
SUCCESS OF  
VENUS.

I MUST GO  
OUTSIDE TO CHECK ON  
HER WELFARE... SHE  
MIGHT BE REVIVED AND  
SALVAGED!

THAT  
FASCINATING  
HYBRID CREATURE  
CRIPPLED MY  
JET PACK!

...BUT HE'S GONE TOO  
FAR AND MAY BE  
CAPABLE OF DOING  
SOMETHING MORE  
EXTREME.

OWEN,  
HAVE THE  
ISLAND  
EVACUATED  
IMMEDIATELY  
AND HAVE THE  
VIOLENT  
RENDEZVOUS  
WITH MY  
CURRENT  
POSITION!

YES,  
SIR!

I'VE  
ALWAYS  
KNOWN  
PHOBOS  
WAS A  
BORDERLINE  
PARANOID  
SCHIZOPHRENIC...

AHHH! THE  
GARGOYLES ARE  
EXITING FROM THE  
HOLOGRAPHIC DATE! I  
WISH WE HAD SOME  
TIME FOR COMBAT  
BEFORE MY RIDE  
ARRIVES!

HEY!  
THERE'S MR.  
BIG NOW!

GET  
READY FOR  
ANYTHING,  
GUYS!











...IS NOW MINE! THIS MARKS THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF YOUR ACCURSED HUMAN RACE!

AFTER I DISPATCH YOU MISCREANTS, I'LL HEAD BACK TO NEW YORK AND BEGIN THE PETRIFICATION OF THE WORLD UNTIL ONLY GARGOYLES RULE WHAT'S LEFT!

NOT WHILE I STILL HAVE THIS REMOTE WHICH CAN SINK THIS WHOLE ISLAND!

PHOBOS... YOU TALK TOO MUCH!

CODE 71: REPORT TO ALL EVACUATION SITES IMMEDIATELY!

JUST AS I SUSPECTED, PHOBOS HAS ENCODED THE ISLAND SELF-DSTRUCT MECHANISM WITH A PROGRAM HE CAN'T OVERRIDE!

ALL MY INVESTMENTS IN GEN-U-TECH MAY SOON BE FLUSHED INTO THE ATLANTIC!





Y-YOU DON'T SCARE ME, DEMON!

YOU HUMANS AND THE WAY YOU DESPERATELY CLING TO YOUR MISERABLE LIVES WILL NEVER CEASE TO AMUSE ME!

WHEN YOU'VE BEEN ON THIS EARTH AS LONG AS I HAVE YOU'RE ABOVE SUCH NARROW CONCEPTS AS MORTALITY!



T-THERE! I DID IT!

YOU'LL ALL SINK WITH THIS ISLAND!

THAT WAS THE PLAN. NOW LET'S CEMENT THE DEAL!



FWASSSH

AIEEEEE!



VROARR



PHOBOS ALWAYS ACTED LIKE A STIFF... NOW HE IS, LITERALLY!

NOW... WHICH ONE OF YOU IS NEXT?!



WHA-PI!

NOW'S MY CHANCE!

EVERYONE SCATTER!





TRYING  
TO SNEAK  
UP ON ME,  
BROOKLYN?



SKRAAK



LET'S SEE  
IF YOU'RE  
QUICKER THAN  
THE AUTOMATIC  
SIGHTS OF THE  
MEDUSA  
DEVICE!



MISSED  
ME, MISSED ME!  
NOW YA GOTTA  
KISS ME!



I STILL OWE YOU BIG TIME FOR  
WHEN YOU RUINED ME INTO  
HELPING YOU HYPNOTIZE  
GOLIATH!\*

OOOF!

LWNN!

\*AS SEEN IN THE CLASSIC TV  
EPISODE "TEMPTATION." --HILDA



THAT'S A  
DEBT THAT'LL BE  
UNPAID!

I WONDER  
IF YOU'LL STILL  
HAVE YOUR SENSES  
WHILE YOU'RE  
FROZEN FOR ALL  
ETERNITY!



NOW  
WHAT?

THE  
ISLAND DWELLERS  
SEEM TO BE LEAVING  
THE ISLAND IN SUCH  
HASTE THAT THEY'RE  
IGNORING US!

I ONLY TRUST  
OUR FRIENDS  
ARE SAFE!















NO! WE CAN'T UNTIL WE'RE SURE THE HEPLISA DEVICE IS DESTROYED!

WE CAN'T LET DEMONA, OR ANYONE, HAVE SUCH A DESTRUCTIVE WEAPON!



THERE'S NO SIGN OF HER OR THE DEVICE.

YOU OTHERS GET BACK TO THE BOAT! I'LL MAKE ONE LAST SWEEP AROUND THE ISLAND TO MAKE SURE THE DEVICE IS DISMANTLED!

NO! YOU CAN'T!



I NEED YOU TO STAY WITH ME! TEACH ME ABOUT LIFE... AND LOVE!

VENUS, NONE OF US WILL HAVE A LIFE TO LIVE IF WE DON'T STOP DEMONA!

THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR... ER, US, IN THE FUTURE!

OH, GREAT...



IF I'M NOT BACK IN A FEW MINUTES, GET BACK TO THE BOAT!



HE'S NOT GONNA HAVE ALL THE FUN TO HIMSELF!

HE TENDS TO UNDER-ESTIMATE THAT WITCH.



HE'LL NEED SOME HELP IF HE FINDS HER!

LIKE HE SAID, IF WE'RE NOT BACK SOON, SAVE YOURSELVES!

THAT WOMAN... SO BRAVE, LIKE A WARRIOR!

RRRRMMMMMM



**BWAMM**

STILL NO  
SIGN OF  
HER!

AFTER  
ALL THESE  
YEARS, CAN DEMONA  
FINALLY HAVE  
PERISHED?!

SHE WAS  
MANY THINGS TO  
ME, BUT IN THE END  
SHE WAS STILL ONE  
OF MY CLAN!

**BWOOOSSH**

**RRRUUMMBBLLLE**

THERE'S  
GOL--  
OHH!

FOR  
CRYING OUT  
LOUD!!

MAN!  
THERE'S NOTHING  
I HATE MORE THAN  
BEING A DAMSEL  
IN DISTRESS!

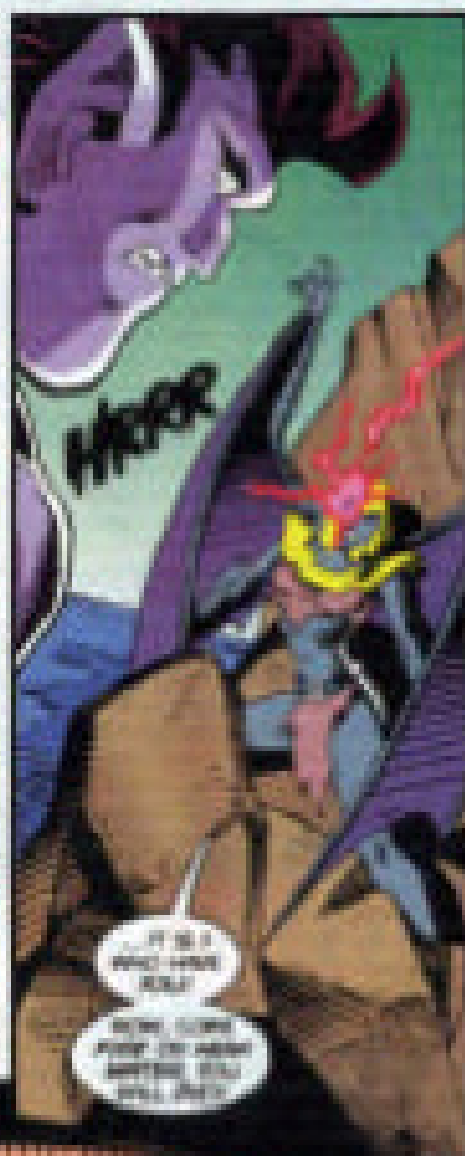
**CRUMBLE**

ELISA!!

I'LL  
BE THERE  
IN A SECOND!  
HANG ON!

THANKS  
FOR THE  
TIP!











SNIK

I'M  
HERE,  
ELISA!

OH,  
SHOOT!

HURRY!  
TAKE WING TO  
THE SHIP!

DEMONA  
AND...AND VENUS...  
I-IS THERE ANY SIGN  
OF THEM?

I'M AFRAID WE  
DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF  
LOOKING FOR THEM!

WELL,  
THAT SURE  
ENDED WITH A  
BANG!

BRAKKA-BA  
WOOOMM  
BA-WOOOSSH



AHAHAHAHA



DEMONA SEEMS TO BE ESCAPING WITH SOME SORT OF BOOTY!

THOSE FOOLS COULDN'T STOP ME FROM ESCAPING WITH MY PRIZE!

SURE AN' I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THIS, BRONX!



THANKS TO A RECENT VIEWING OF "FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE", I KNOW WHAT THIS LITTLE GARGET IS GOOD FOR...



I'M BLINDED!

PLOOSH

ARRRGH!

ALWAYS DID LIKE THAT CONNERY LAD BEST!

IT WAS ALL FOR NAUGHT! NEXT WE MEET, THEY'LL PAY FOR THIS! THAT I SWEAR!

HEH HEH!





So that was the end of GEN U-TECH Island and the end of the MEDUSA PROJECT.

Though Venus was GONE all the questions she raised ARENT. She was part ME and part GOLIATH and she affected BOTH of us.

She made me think about Goliath and me... What our relationship IS and ISNT and I SCARED me. I must admit I feel JEALOUS and I'm not PROUD of those feelings.

Keneloe had one less weapon to use in his MAD campaign for domination, but two had paid the ULTIMATE price for it.

I PRAY that she's at PEACE wherever she is. I only know that I won't be at peace with myself for SOME time.

END OF EVERY ENTRY.

**NEXT** They're back...for the first time in comics!  
**ISSUE: The PACK ATTACK!**



# WRITTEN IN STONE

**HILLY MESNIK**  
Editor

c/o Marvel Entertainment Group 387 Park Avenue South New York, NY 10016  
Please include your name, age, and address, though we will gladly withhold that information upon request.

**LISA ZAMPELLA**  
Assistant Editor

Dear GARGOYLES,

Three cheers for Amanda Conner! Until I picked up my daughter's copy of GARGOYLES, I had never heard the name before. We (my daughter and I) are predominantly the super hero types, which means we collect all X-MEN and other related comics, but we have, on occasion, branched off into other areas. Because we liked the GARGOYLES movie and enjoy the cartoon, we took a chance with GARGOYLES and we absolutely loved them.

While putting some books together to take to the New York Comics Convention, we noticed that Amanda was on the list of artists to be there and my daughter insisted we take our GARGOYLES to be signed. I have never been so impressed with anyone as much as Amanda. I was surprised and pleased to see that she could produce super heroes with the best of pencilers, but most impressive was the exceptionally personable manner with my ten-year-old daughter. She went beyond nice to make a fan feel special.

My daughter did not stop talking about Amanda all the way home and the fact that we met other very popular artists did not seem to matter. Amanda won the day and I would personally like to see more of her work in the future. I believe Marvel has found a piece of the magic puzzle that makes the comic business so special.

Thank you to Amanda for being special and be assured that we are just two of what I am certain will be her many fans. Watch out Jim Lee, here comes Amanda.

Vincent A. Tannone  
Tiffany Jade Tannone  
Lake Peekskill, NY

**Sure, we might be biased, but we totally agree with you about Amanda. She is one of the top talents in the industry (and the best-kept secret in comics, but that'll change) and one of the nicest people you could meet in comics!**

Dear GARGOYLES and Company,

Congratulations on your work. My favorite character is Demona. You should definitely show more of her in the future. Xanatos is a good villain. I like how he's subtle and outwardly polite, even to Elisa and the other Gargoyles. That's more like a real-life villain than the ones in most comics who have no sense of tact or diplomacy. Elisa was also a surprise. When I heard she was going to be the Gargoyles' "human friend", I was like, "Oh, no! Not another cheesy April O'Neil type girl!", but she proved herself pretty well. I like how she kicked butt on those soldiers in GARGOYLES #4. The Pack is definitely hip, with cool characters like Wolf and Hyena. This group should have their own comic series!

Chris Trent  
E. Hampton, NY

Demona is one of our favorite characters, too! Hope you enjoyed her appearance this issue, expect to see LOTS more of her in future issues. New writer Mort Todd has some devilish plans for her to pull on Goliath and Elisa very soon! And don't miss the "Pack Attack" coming in issues #7 and #8!

Dear Written in Stone,

When my boyfriend told me there was a GARGOYLES comic I went spastic! I ran right out and bought the first issue. I think the art is spectacular. Oh, drool, da rool! Those who believe comics are for kids obviously don't read GARGOYLES or X-MEN. I also love how you guys answer all of the letters you print. You should keep the letters at two pages for keeps. I love reading the letters. As for my favorite Gargoyle, it's a



toss up between Lexington and Brooklyn. You guys do a great job with their characters. Minus the 1000 years they were frozen, how old are the Gargoyles? Keep up the awesome work!

Wendy Fay, age 18  
Auburn, MA

**Gargoyles live to be hundreds of years old, but Brooklyn, Lex and Broadway are still in their "teen" years. Goliath is a bit older, and as you can tell, Hudson is a bit more mature. As for Bronx, he's still a pup! Wait'll you see him full-grown!**

Dear GARGOYLES,

I'm a huge fan of Disney cartoons and just about every form of animation. I am 20-years-old and will proudly state, "I love your comic!" They convinced me to first rent and then buy the Gargoyles movie on video. I enjoy that your comic seems to follow the Gargoyles animated series. I say "seems" because I've yet to see an episode of the great new Disney adventure. When did it start? What channel might it be on? Disney? The Cartoon Network? I've got to know! Thank you so very, very much for your comic!

Ryan A. May, age 20  
Hohe Sound, FL

The animated TV series, Gargoyles, premiered in Fall 1995 and currently shows on Fridays as part of The Disney Afternoon (Aladdin, Goof Troop, Darkwing Duck, etc.). The good news for Gargoyle fans is that starting next fall, the show will be on four days a week! We've had the chance to read the story synopses for next season and all we can say is ... WOW! Not only will you be thrilled by what's in store for you, but it will answer many of the questions that you fans have been asking!

Dear Written in Stone,

When I happened upon the Gargoyles TV show, I was excited. When I got the movie, I was thrilled. When I got the comic, I fell in love! The artwork is great! You guys should be commended! I just got GARGOYLES #2 and it was just as good, if not better, than #1. One thing confused me. On the TV show, Elisa has a brother, Derek. In the comic book she has a sis. What happened? Other than that, I think your work and this comic book are absolutely fabulous! Keep up the good work!

Rachel S. Hochberg, age 12  
Easton, PA

**Although she hasn't appeared on the TV show yet (she's been going to school in Arizona, after all), Elisa's sister, Beth, will be on the show next season. And wait until you see the changes Derek goes through on the new shows with David Xanatos!**

Dear Written in Stone,

I love the Gargoyles TV show and I love your issues from Marvel. I like how the illustrations express the feelings of the characters, thanks to the gifted talent of Amanda Conner. I like the colors, too. Greg Wright must have worked his butt off trying to color it so perfectly.

My favorite characters in the TV series and comic are the mighty Goliath, the fierce warrior (and TV junkie) Hudson, the 20th Century fad-crazed Brooklyn, food-loving and bulky Broadway, 20th Century techno-wonder Lexington, the lovely human detective Elisa Maza and my real favorite, the cute Bronx.

Nakia C. Ann Degale, age 15  
Ville Lasalle, Quebec, Canada

**It sounds like ALL the Gargoyles (and Elisa) are your favorite characters, Nakia, and we can't blame you! We also have a soft spot for Bronx and are planning to do a special Bronx solo story in a future issue!**

**NEXT ISSUE:**

For the first time in comics —  
**THE PACK ATTACKS!**